

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method comprising:
receiving digital content and metadata associated with the digital content;
~~receiving publication information associated with the digital content, the publication~~
~~information including~~ comprising distribution information that identifies one or more content
distributors selected to distribute ~~to be notified about the received~~ digital content; and
sending the metadata and publication information to a first computing system for storage.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving digital content includes receiving
digital content from a digital content management (DCM) system.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein receiving publication information includes
receiving publication information using a graphical user interface (GUI).
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the digital content includes at least one of
streaming video content, music content, graphic content, print content, sound content, or audio
content.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein metadata includes at least one of a name,
length, publisher, location, or description associated with the digital content.
6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein publication information ~~includes~~
further comprises at least one of pricing, rights, or catalog information associated with the digital
content.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein producing protected digital content includes encrypting the digital content and storing the encrypted digital content into a file transfer protocol (FTP) directory such that the digital content is accessible over a network.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein producing protected digital content includes encrypting the digital content and storing the encrypted digital content into a real server transfer protocol (RSTP) directory such that the digital content is capable of being streamed over a network.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 further comprising producing thumbnail information associated with the digital content and storing the thumbnail information into a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) directory such that the thumbnail information is accessible over a network.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50 wherein producing protected digital content includes controlling access to the digital content over a network.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein controlling access includes using an XrML license.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein sending includes sending a rights-label to a digital content rights management system (DRM), wherein the rights-label includes metadata and publication information associated with the digital content.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising notifying a digital content distributor of the availability of the metadata and publication information associated with the digital content, the content distributor being one of the identified content distributors.

14. (Previously presented) A digital content publication apparatus comprising:
a memory unit; and
a processor configured to:
 receive digital content and metadata associated with digital content,
 receive ~~publication information associated with the digital content, the~~ publication
information ~~including~~ comprising distribution information that identifies one or more content
distributors ~~to be notified about~~ selected to distribute the ~~received~~ digital content, and
 send the metadata and publication information to a first computing system for
storage.
15. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is configured to receive
digital content from a digital content management (DCM) system.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is configured to receive
publication information using a graphical user interface (GUI).
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the digital content includes at least one
of streaming video content, music content, graphic content, print content, sound content, or audio
content.
18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein metadata includes at least one of a
name, length, publisher, location, or description associated with the digital content.
19. (Currently amended) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein publication information
~~includes~~ further comprises at least one of pricing, rights, or catalog information associated with
the digital content.

20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is configured to encrypt the digital content and store the encrypted digital content into a file transfer protocol (FTP) directory such that the digital content is accessible over a network.

21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is configured to encrypt the digital content and store the encrypted digital content into a real server transfer protocol (RSTP) directory such that the digital content is capable of being streamed over a network.

22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is configured to produce thumbnail information associated with the digital content and store the thumbnail information into a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) directory such that the thumbnail information is accessible over a network.

23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is configured to control access to the digital content over a network.

24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23 wherein the control access includes using an XrML license.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is configured to send includes sending a rights-label to a digital content rights management (DRM) system, wherein the rights-label includes metadata and publication information associated with the digital content.

26. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processor is further configured to notify a digital content distributor of the availability of the metadata and publication information associated with the digital content, the digital content distributor being one of the identified content distributors.

27. (Currently amended) An article comprising a computer-readable medium that stores computer executable instructions for causing a computer system to:

receive digital content and metadata associated with the digital content;

~~receive publication information associated with digital content, in response to receiving the digital content and metadata associated with the digital content, the publication information including comprising~~ distribution information that identifies one or more content distributors ~~to be notified about~~ selected to distribute the received digital content; and

send the metadata and publication information to a first computing system for storage.

28. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content wherein the digital content is received from a digital content management (DCM) system.

29. (Original) The article of claim 27 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to receive publication information using a graphical user interface (GUI).

30. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content, wherein the digital content includes at least one of streaming video content, music content, graphic content, print content, sound content, or audio content.

31. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 comprising instructions for causing the computer to protect the digital content, wherein the metadata includes at least one of a name, length, publisher, location, or description associated with the digital content.

32. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content, wherein the publication information includes at least one of pricing, rights, or catalog information associated with the digital content.

33. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content including instructions to encrypt the digital content and store the encrypted digital content into a file transfer protocol (FTP) directory such that the digital content is accessible over a network.

34. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content including instructions to encrypt the digital content and store the encrypted digital content into a real server transfer protocol (RSTP) directory such that the digital content is capable of being streamed over a network.

35. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content including instructions to produce thumbnail information associated with the digital content and to store the thumbnail information into a hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) directory such that the thumbnail information is accessible over a network.

36. (Previously presented) The article of claim 53 comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content including instructions to control access to the digital content over a network.

37. (Original) The article of claim 36 comprising instructions for causing the computer to control access includes instructions for controlling access using an XrML license.

38. (Original) The article of claim 27 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to send a rights-label to a digital content rights management (DRM) system, wherein the rights-label includes metadata and publication information associated with the digital content.

39. (Previously presented) The article of claim 27 further comprising instructions for causing the computer to notify a digital content distributor of the availability of the metadata and publication information associated with the digital content, the digital content distributor being one of the identified content distributors.

40. (Currently amended) A system comprising:

a digital content management (DCM) computer configured to send digital content and metadata associated with the digital content to a digital content publication (DCP) computer, in response to a request by the DCP computer; and

a digital rights management (DRM) computer configured to receive metadata and publication information from the DCP computer, and store the metadata and the publication information, the publication information ~~including~~ comprising distribution information that identifies one or more content distributors ~~to be notified about~~ selected to distribute the digital content.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Canceled)

43. (Previously presented) The system of claim 40, wherein the metadata includes at least one of a name, length, publisher, location, or description associated with the digital content.

44. (Currently amended) The system of claim 40, wherein the publication information further ~~includes~~ comprises at least one of pricing, rights, or catalog information associated with the digital content.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

48. (Canceled)

49. (Canceled)

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising protecting the received digital content to generate protected digital content.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the received digital content is protected to generate protected digital content.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 51 wherein the protected digital content is stored.

53. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 27 comprising instructions for causing the computer to produce protected digital content.

54. (Currently amended) A computer-implemented method for distribution of digital content comprising:

storing metadata for the content in association with publication information for the content, the publication information identifying one or more content distributors selected to distribute for the content; and

enabling secure distribution of the content according to the stored publication information.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 54, wherein enabling secure distribution comprises:
generating a protected version of the content;
using the metadata and the publication information to control access to the protected content.